

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 228527

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION OF LINE 12 IN NUMBERED PARA 2)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: POSSIBLE COMPROMISE OVER PRINCIPLES

LANGUAGE

REF: GENEVA 6103

FOR BOSTER

1. IN RESPONSE TO PARAGRAPH 6 REFTTEL, WE CONCUR IN YOUR PROPOSAL TO INDICATE TO KOVALEV AND MENDELEVICH THAT YOU ARE FULLY AWARE OF SOVIET CONCERN ON POINT OF PREAMBLE TO BASKET 3, AND THAT WE HAVE SUPPORTED FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR STRUCTURING BASKET 3 SUBCOMMITTEE'S DISCUSSION AROUND MINI-BASKETS AS A WAY TO KEEP QUESTION OF PREAMBULAR LANGUAGE FOR BASKET 3 IN PLAY.

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2. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD CONVEY TO SOVIETS YOUR READING OF STRENGTH OF WESTERN OPPOSITION TO INCLUDING "LAWS AND CUSTOMS" IN PREAMBLE TO BASKET 3 AND INQUIRE WHETHER THEY HAVE GIVEN THOUGHT TO ALTERNATIVE

APPROACHES WHICH MIGHT LEND THEMSELVES TO OVERCOMING THIS DIFFICULTY. BEYOND THIS, YOU MAY WISH TO INQUIRE WHETHER STRENGTHENING OF LANGUAGE ON NON-INTERFERENCE IN BASKET 1 MIGHT NOT OPEN WAY TO POSSIBLE COMPROMISE ENTAILING SPECIFIC REFERENCE IN PREAMBULAR LANGUAGE OF BASKET 3 TO STRENGTHENED BASKET 1 FORMULATION, A POSSIBILITY WHICH HAD OCCURRED TO US AS MEANS TO BRIDGE IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES THAT PERSIST ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT WILL LIKELY REQUIRE SOME FLEXIBILITY BY ALL TO OVERCOME.

3. BEGIN FYI: WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD NOT DELAY FURTHER IN REASSURING SOVIETS THAT WE ARE GIVING CLOSE ATTENTION TO THIS ISSUE, AND THEREFORE YOU SHOULD BEGIN NOW TO SEEK TO SOFTEN THEIR POSITION, LOOKING TOWARD A COMPROMISE THAT WILL PERMIT PROBLEM OF BASKET 3 PREAMBLE FROM BECOMING A MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK IN CSCE. AT THE SAME TIME, YOU SHOULD CONTINUE YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ALLIES, URGING THEM TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO POSSIBLE COMPROMISES. END FYI. KISSINGER

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